



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application Serial No: 09/996,658 Confirmation No: 5226
Date Filed: November 29, 2001
Application Title: Methods And Compositions For Sorting And/Or Determining Organisms
Applicants: Coull et al.
Group Art Unit: 1634
Examiner: Ethan C. Whisenant
Action Type: Restriction Requirement
Action Date: December 01, 2003
Certified Mail No.: 7099 3400 0007 5728 4340

Certificate of Mailing Pursuant to:
37 C.F.R. §1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on this 5th day of March, 2004.



Brian D. Gildea
Reg. No. 39,995

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir or Madam:

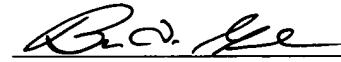
This response is being forwarded to The Office within the six month statutory period, along with a request and payment of the proper fee for an automatic three (3) month extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136(a). With the extension, a reply should now be due on April 1, 2004. Accordingly, please consider the following response to the Restriction Requirement mailed on December 1, 2003.

I. REONSE

Applicants respectfully choose claims directed to Group I, which appear to be claims 1-50. This preliminary election is made without traverse. Accordingly, please cancel claims 51-59 as being drawn to a non-elected Group.

II. FEES

Accompanying this paper is a petition under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) for an automatic three-month extension of time and authorization for deducting the appropriate fee from Deposit Account 02-3240. It is believed that no additional fees are required for entry and proper consideration of this paper. However, if The Office finds that a fee is required for the entry and consideration of this paper, The Office is hereby authorized to deduct said fee from Deposit Account No. 02-3240.



Brian D. Gildea, Reg. No. 39,995

III. CORRESPONDENCE/CUSTOMER NUMBER

Please send all correspondence pertaining to this document to:

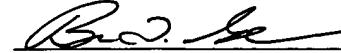
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IF NOT ALREADY DONE, PLEASE MATCH THIS CASE WITH CUSTOMER NUMBER

23544

Respectfully submitted
on behalf of Applicants,

March 5, 2004
Date:



Brian D. Gildea, Esq.; Reg. No. 39,995